

Diana Urban

Biography

Diana Urban was first elected to the General Assembly November 7, 2000 and is currently serving her third term. She is a member of the Legislature's Environment Committee, Commerce Committee and Planning and Development Committee, and is Co-Chair of the Results Based Accountability Work Group. She has previously served on the Energy and Technology Committee and Government, Administration and Elections Committee.

Representative Urban has significant concerns about both our economy and the environment, and is committed to finding and maintaining a balance that will encourage sustainable growth within Connecticut. She is also committed to protecting Connecticut's most vulnerable children and providing ample educational opportunities to all children in this state, recognizing the role they will play in the future. She has been the legislative champion for addressing the "cycle of violence" that recognizes that animal abuse too often is a harbinger of domestic abuse and criminal activity. Representative Urban's legislative agenda reflects these values and she works closely with constituents and advocacy groups to craft legislation to impact these issues.

She is a two time recipient of the American Lung Association of Connecticut's Breath of Life award for her work in helping to clean up Connecticut's "Sooty Six" power plants. The award is given to legislators who demonstrate dedication in the prevention of lung disease and promoting lung health. She was also named one of the four most influential legislators on the environment by the Connecticut League of Conservation Voters, as well as an "Environmental Hero".

Representative Urban has been honored for serving as an effective advocate for the business community as a member of the General Assembly by the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO). The organization established and bestowed the first annual Diana Urban Award, which is named in perpetuity for her. In addition, she established the Small Business Advocacy Task Force, which has been meeting for several years and is designed to address issues for small businesses in Southeastern Connecticut. Most recently she partnered with the Community Economic Development Fund to bring a \$4 million public/private loan pool to Southeastern Connecticut for assisting Micro enterprise and Small Business.

Throughout her tenure in the General Assembly, Representative Urban has led the fight for Results Based Accountability (RBA) in Budgeting in the State of Connecticut. She is currently the Co Chair of the RBA Work Group of the Appropriations Committee and fervently believes that accountability and transparency are essential to good government.

Representative Urban is committed to empowering young women to pursue careers that in the past were non-traditional .She recently served as Faculty in Residence at the Center for Women and Politics at the Eagleton School of Politics at Rutgers University. She believes that working on such empowerment will help to mold professional, capable young women who will actively contribute to our communities and our economy.

She serves as a mentor for Middle School and High School girls considering careers in

environmental or economic studies. She is a Parent Advisor for Americorp's "City Year" Program where her son gave a year of service in inner city DC. She is a former Middle School Boys Basketball coach, and currently serves as a United States Pony Club Regional and National Coach.

For twenty-six years Representative Urban has been employed as an Economics and Political Science professor. Most recently she taught Micro and Macro Economics, Environmental Studies and Regulation as an Adjunct professor at Three Rivers College and Environmental Conservation at the University of Connecticut Avery Point. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Long Island University where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. Representative Urban also earned Masters in Urban Policy Sciences from SUNY at Stony Brook, a Masters in Environmental Management from Chadwick University and has studied for her PhD in Economics at the University of Rhode Island. Representative Urban has also pursued a Professional Diploma in Music from Longy Institute of Music in Cambridge Massachusetts.

Representative Urban served for 10 years on North Stonington's Planning and Zoning Commission. She resides in North Stonington with her son, Lex.